

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A wear resistant coating for protecting a surface, the wear resistant coating applied by high velocity oxygen-fuel deposition of a powder, the powder comprising a blend of:  
about [18] 13 wt. % to about [35] 43 wt. % of a nickel-chromium alloy;  
about [35] 25 wt. % to about [53] 64 wt. % chromium carbide; and  
about 15 wt. % to about 50 wt. % molybdenum,  
wherein chromium from the nickel-chromium alloy is at least 7.2 wt % of the blend.

Please add the following new claims:

11. (New) The piston ring of claim 1, wherein there is about 18 wt % to about 35 wt. % of a nickel-chromium alloy.
12. (New) The piston ring of claim 1, wherein there is about about 35 wt % to about 53 wt. % of chromium carbide.
13. (New) The piston ring of claim 1, wherein there is about 18 wt % to about 35 wt. % of a nickel-chromium alloy and about 35 wt % to about 53 wt. % of chromium carbide.